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Message Text

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ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 AF-04 ARA-10 EA-13 EUR-10 NEA-06

DLOS-01 L-02 PM-03 COA-01 EB-03 PRS-01 INR-10 NSC-10

NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 CG-00 DOTE-00 OMB-01 DRC-01

RSC-01 TRSE-00 OIC-01 /096 W
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R 090040Z NOV 73
FM USMISSION USUN NY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 922

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 4585

LIMDIS

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR PBOR UN
SUBJECT: LOS CONFERENCE: STAVROPOULOS' VIEWS

1. IN VIEW OF APPARENT CONCENTRATPON OF AMB AMERASINGHE ON OTHER MATTERS, DELOFF FOUND OPPORTUNITY 8 NOV FOR DISCUSSION WITH SRAVROPOULOS OF PLANNING FOR INAUGURAL SESSION OF LOS CONF. IN RESPONSE DELOFF'S QUESTION, STAVROPOULOS SAID THAT, AS CUSTOMARY, THE CONFERENCE, WOULD BE OPENED BY THE SYG; THE ELECTION OF A CONFERENCE PRES AND ADOPTION OF CONFERENCE RULES OF PROCEDURE WOULD FOLLOW THEREAFTER . HE WAS NOT AWARE OF ANY CONTROVERSY AT PAST UN CONFERENCES CONCERNING GOVERNING PROCUDURES IN THE MOMENTARY INTERVAL BETWEEN THE OPENING OF A CONFERENCE AND ITS ADOPTION OF RULES OF PROCEDURE; THE MOST HE THOUGHT COULD BE SAID WOULD BE THAT ANY QUESTIONS OR DIFFFERENCES ARISING IN THAT INTERVAL WOULD HAVE TO BE SOLVED "BY GOOD FAITH." THERE WAS REALLY NO ALTERNATIVE.
2. DELOFF THEN REFREED TO IMPORTANCE OF APPROPRIATE CARRYING FORWARD OF GENTLEMANS AGREEMENT IN AVOIDACE OF PREMATURE VOTING. STAVROPOULOS SEEMED
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IN FULL AGREEMENT BUT SAID HIS INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS

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HAVE REVEALED ALMOST NO WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT A ROLE
IN THIS CONTEXT FOR THE GENERAL COMMITTEE OR FOR
EXPLICIT INCORPORATION OF THE GENTLEMANS AGREEMENT
IN THE CONFERENCE RULES OF PROCEDURE. HE REMINDED
THAT SUCH DELS AS MEXICO, KENYA AND TANZANIA HAD IN
FIRST COMMITTEE STRONGLY TAKEN POSITION DURING THE
GENTLEMANS AGREEMENT NEGOTIATIONS THAT THEY WOULD
NOT OBJECT TO THE TEXT OF THE AGREEMENT OR, INDEED,
TO A COMMITMENT TO DEVELOP AN APPROPRIATE CONFERENCE
MECHANISM THEREFOR BUT WOULD NOT AGREE TO ENSHRINING
THE AGREEMENT IN THE RULES OF PROCEDURES. SPEAKING
PERSONALLY, DELOFF ASSERTED THAT GENTLEMANS'
AGREEMENT WOULD HAVE TO BE READ OUT TO THE INAUGURAL
SESSION AND THUS BE INCORPORTATED IN THE CONFERENCE
RECORDS: HE ALSO URGED THAT STAVROPOULSO; DRAFT RULES, WHICH
WERE UNDERSTOOD TO BE UNDER PREPARATION, SHOULD IN
SOME MEANINGFUL FASHION TAKE EXPLICIT NOTE OF THE
EXISTENCE OF THE GENTLEMAN' S AGREEMENT: TO FAIL TO DO
SO WOULD BE TO DEGRATE THE AGREEMENT AND COULD IMPOSE
A HEAVY BURDEN ON THOSE WHO WOULD WANT TO NEGOTIATE
TOWARD THE INAUGURAL SESSION' TAKING
EFFECTIVE ACTION TO IMPLEMENT THE AGREEMENT.
3. STAVROPOULOS SEEMED TO TAKE THE POINT, HE
FRTHER OBSERVED HE IS CONSIDERING INCLUDING IN
HIS DRAFT SET OF RULES A REQUIREMENT THAT, BEFORE A
MAIN COMMITTEE BEGINS TO VOTE ON SUBSTANTIVE TEXTUAL
PROPOSALS, THE QUESTION OF RIPENESS OF VOTING WOULD BE
REFERRED TO THE PLENARY SESSION WHICH WOULD THEN DECIDE
WHETHER THE MC CONCERNED SHOULD PROCEED BY VOTING.
TIED TO THIS WOULD BE A PROVISION GIVING THE CONFERENCE
PRES AUTHORITY TO DELAY THE PLENARY'S DECISION ON THE
POINT FOR A STATED PERIOD OF TIME, WITH AN OPTION
FOR A SECOND (AND FINAL) DELAY OF AN EQUAL PERIOD.
4. STAVROPOULOS SAID HE BELIEVES AMERASINGHE INTENDS
TO CALL MTGS OF THE CONTACT GROUP (5 REGIONAL
GROUP CHAIRMEN PLUS US) BEGINNING WEEK 12 NOV FOR SOME
TWO OR THREE MEETINGSPER WEEK UNTIL CONFERENCE CONVENES
ON 3 DEC. HE EXPECTED AMERASINGHE TO PLACE BEFORE THE
CONTACT GROUP SUCH QUESTIONS AS THE NUMBER OF CONFERENCE
COMMITTEES; THE COMPOSITION OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE,
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DRAFTING COMMITTEE AND CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE; IMPLE-
MENTATION OF THE GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT: AND DOCUMENTATION
CONTROL, THE LAST BEING NECESSARY , STAVROPOULOS COMMENTTED,
IF LITERALLY EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURES WERE TO BE AVOIDED.
DELOFF DREW SPECIAL ATTENTION TO IMPORTANCE OF THE
CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE AND ASKED THAT STAVROPOULOS WORK
TOWARD A COMPOSITION EXACTLY PARALLEL TO THAT OF THE
UNGA. HE APPEARED TO AGREE, SAYING THAT EFFORTS TO

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INCREASE THE LOS CONFERENCE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE FROM
THE UNGA NUMBER OF 9 WOULD REPRESENT AN OVERT ATTEMPT
TO OBTAIN LOS CONFERENCE RESULTS DIFFERENT THAT THOSE
OF THE GA.
5. AS TO THE GENERAL COMMITTEE, HE OBSERVED THAT
AMERASINGHE IS CONTINUING TO THINK OF A 36 -MEMBER GC.
WITH REGARD TO THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE, STAVROPOULOS
AGREED WITH DEL OFF THAT MEMBERSHIP SHOULD BE KEPT TO 15,
HE SAID HE WAS VERY DISTURBED AT INTENSITY OF OPPOSITION
HE WAS ENCOUNTERING TO INCLUSION OF SC PERMANENT
MEMBERS. DELOFF RESPONDED THAT THEIR MEMBERSHIP IS
INDISPENSABLE AND THAT SAME MIGHT BE SAID CONCERNING
THAT OF JAPAN. STAVROPOULOS EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT
IN VIEW OF VENEZUELAN HOSTING OF SUBSTANTIVE SESSION
AMBAGUILAR SEEK DC CHAIRMANSHIP; THERE HAD EARLIER BEEN
TALK OF CASTANEDA IN THIS CONTEXT BUT, WHEN YASSEEN
HAD APPEARED TO BE AVAILABLE, CASTANEDA HAS WITHDRAWN.
STAVROPOULOS AND DELOFF AGREED THAT NOTWITHSTANDING HIS
POSITION IN IRAQI GOVT, YASSEEN HAD BEEN NON-PARTISAN,
AND OTHERWISE EXEMPLARY DC CHAIRMAN AT 1968-1969
VIENNA TREATIES CONFERENCE.
6. STAVROPOULOS VOLUNTEERED THAT, NO HAVING RECENTLY
HEARD FROM SEABEDS COMMITTEE I CHAIRMAN ENGO IN RECENT
WEEKS, HE HAD ASKED CAMEROON UN AMB WHETHER GOC WAS
SUPPORTING ENGO AS CONFERENCE COMMITTEE I CHAIRMAN.
THE AMB HAD SAID HE WOULD INQUIRE TELEGRAPHICALLY OF
YAOUNDE: THIS HAD TAKEN PLACE SOME TIME AGO WITH NO
RESPONSE YET FORTHCOMING. STAVROPOULOS WAS
CONCERNED THAT, IN THIS APPARENT VOID, KEDADI (TUNISIA)
WOULD SEEK THIS POST, WHICH IT WAS AGREED WOULD BE
UNDESIRABLE. WERE ENGO TO BE UNAVAILABLE,HE SUGGESTED
A GOOD ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE THE SENEGALESE AMB IN
GENEVA, AMADOU CISSE, WHO HAD HEADED SENEGALESE
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DEL AT JUL-AUG SEABEDS COMMITTEE SESSION, NEVERTHELESS
HE WOULD PREFER ENGO.
7 IMPORTANT THAT STAVROPOULOS BE PROTECTED AS SOURCE
FOREGOING.
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